

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 02749 221938Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 MCT-01 /075 W
-----080622 221941Z /46

O 221920Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4637
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2749

CARACAS FOR ROBERT PASTOR, NSC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PEPER, PINS, DR

SUBJECT: PENA GOMEZ AIRS FEARS OVER "ASSASINATION PLOT"

REFS SANTO DOMINGO 2737; SANTO DOMINGO 2739

1. MORNING EL SOL TODAY CARRIES STATEMENT BY PRD SECGEN JOSE FRANCISCO PENA GOMEZ, WHO IS DESCRIBED AS IN "SEMI-HIDING," TO THE EFFECT THAT "ANTI-DEMOCRATIC GROUPS" WITHING OFFICIAL CIRCLES ARE OUT TO KILL HIM. STATEMENTS REPORTEDLY MADE TO DOMINICAN AND VENEZUELAN RADIO AND TV REPORTERS.

2. PENA CHARGED THAT INDIVIDUALS IN TWO VEHICLES WERE CIRCULATING IN THE CITY LOOKING FOR HIM. HE SAYS HE IS IN "SEMI-HIDING" BECAUSE, DESPITE STATEMENTS BY BALAGUER AND POLICE CHIEF NIVAR, THE SITUATION IS STILL CONFUSED WITHING THE GOVERNMENT;
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MOREOVER, WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES AND THE POLICE THERE ARE "AGRESIVE AND FANATICAL MINORITY SECTORS WHICH THINK THAT THEY CAN RESOLVE THE SITUATION BY ELIMINATING A PRD LEADER, CREATING A STATE OF CHAOS WHICH MAKES IMPOSSIBLE THE ASSUMPTION OF POWER BY THE PRD." HE EXPRESSED VIEW THAT DANGER TO PRD LEADERS WOULD NOT CEASE EVEN AFTER A NEW GOVERNMENT IS SWORN IN.

3. PENA SAID PRD IS PARTY OF PEACE AND INDICATED IT WOULD NOT REACT FORCEFULLY TO THESE THREATS. HE CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO REMAIN CALM AND AVOID PROVOCATIONS, "BECAUSE DESPERATE REFORMISTAS ACTING WITHOUT PRESIDENT BALAGUER'S CONSENT ARE TRYING BY ALL MEANS TO PROVOKE AN ACTION BY PRD FOLLOWERS THAT COULD BRING ON A BLOODBATH. SUCH A TRAGEDY CANNOT YET BE DISCOUNTED BECAUSE THESE GROUPS CONTINUE TO TRY TO KILL THE PRINCIPAL PRD LEADERS INCLUDING ITS CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT."

4. COMMENT. THESE ARE FIRST PUBLIC REMARKS CONCERNING ALLEGED ASSASSINATION PLOTS. PRD LEADERS ARE OBVIOUSLY UNDER GREAT STRAIN AND THEIR CONFIDENCE MAY SHIFT SOMEWHAT AS RUMORS ABOUT SUCH PLOTS AND OTHER ACTIONS BY GOVERNMENT CIRCULATE. FOR INSTANCE, REPORT THAT CONGRESS WILL BE CALLED INTO SESSION SHORTLY HAS RAISED SUSPICIONS IN THE PRD THAT SOME TRICKERY--CHANGES IN ELECTION LAW OR DENUNCIATIONS OF FOREIGN INTERVENTIONS--MAY BE IN THE WORKS. (CONGRESSIONAL SOURCES SAY AT THIS POINT THAT ONLY REASON FOR CALLING CONGRESS TOGETHER IS TO EXTEND CURRENT CONGRESSIONAL SESSION FOR 60 DAYS BEFORE IT RUNS OUT ON MAY 26.)
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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ASSASSINATION, PLOTS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SANTO02749
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780215-1010
Format: TEL
From: SANTO DOMINGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780533/aaaabbjo.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 00b70799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR, PRD, (PENA GOMEZ, FRANCISCO)
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